GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2978
ANSWERED ON:20.03.2008
ADDITIONAL COOKING GAS CYLINDERS FOR SOCIAL CELEBRATION
Singh Shri Mohan

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have any scheme to provide additional cooking gas cylinders for social celebration like marriage etc.;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of cooking gas connections in the country at present;

(d) whether there is any proposed scheme to provide two cylinders to each family for domestic consumption;

(e) if not, the reasons therefor;

(f) whether the Government have been considering to provide cooking gas connections to each family unit residing in all the rural and urban areas of the country within five years; and

(g) if so, the outlines of the scheme?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DINSHA PATEL)

(a) & (b): Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) provide commercial cooking gas cylinders for social celebrations like marriages etc. against payment of prescribed deposit.

(c) to (e) OMCs have reported that as on 1.2.2008, they were serving 993 lakh LPG customers in the country. OMCs have also reported that the total number of Double Bottle Connections (DBC) in the country is 493.6 lakh as on 1.2.2008.

(f) & (g) Government have given freedom to OMCs to set up LPG distributorships in accordance with their commercial assessment and locations are identified by them on the basis of available refill sale potential for sustaining an independent distributorship. However, Government have advised OMCs to draw up Marketing Plan for covering semi-urban and rural areas. OMCs have finalized 1340 locations in the country for setting up of new LPG distributorships mainly in rural and urban-rural (semi-urban) locations. The setting up of LPG distributorships is a continuous process and involves identifying of a suitable location, arranging land for setting up of godown and other statutory clearances.